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MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION  
COMMITTEE  
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## HARMFUL AQUATIC ORGANISMS IN BALLAST WATER

### Report on the Regional Scientific Workshop on Ballast Water Management and Control held on board m/v Georgij Ushakov in the Black Sea from 14 to 17 September 1999

Note by the Secretariat

#### SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This paper contains a summary of the outcome of the Regional Scientific Workshop on Ballast Water Management and Control held on board <b>m/v Georgij Ushakov</b> in the Black Sea from 14 to 17 September 1999. Participants from countries bordering the Black and Caspian Seas attended the Workshop.
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	For information only.
<i>Related documents:</i>	None.

1 Following a request from the countries bordering the Black Sea, a Regional Scientific Workshop on Ballast Water Management and Control was held on board **m/v Georgij Ushakov** in the Black Sea from 14 to 17 September 1999.

2 The purpose of the Workshop was to raise awareness on the introduction of exotic species through ballast water and to improve the ability of participating countries to establish mechanisms whereby the unique ecology of the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea can be protected from further introductions of alien species through ships' ballast water.

2 The Workshop was funded by IMO's Technical Co-operation Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, and arranged by IMO in close co-operation with the Shipping Safety Inspectorate of Ukraine. Forty participants from Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Ukraine attended the Workshop.

4 The Sailing Plan was as follows:

Day 1 (14 September 1999)	Day 2 (15 September 1999)	Day 3 (16 September 1999)	Day 4 (17 September 1999)
12:00 Boarding the ship in <b>Odessa</b>	Sampling and analysis of water, lectures, workshops.	06:00 Arrival at <b>Varna</b>	Approval of Report.
Welcome and Introduction	17:00 Arrival at <b>Constanta</b> Press conference	Press conference	10:00 Arrival at <b>Odessa</b>
18:00 Departure for <b>Constanta</b>  Video Presentations	22:00 Departure for <b>Varna</b>	10:00 Departure for <b>Odessa</b> Sampling, analysing, lecturing, workshops, report writing.	Disembark before 12:00

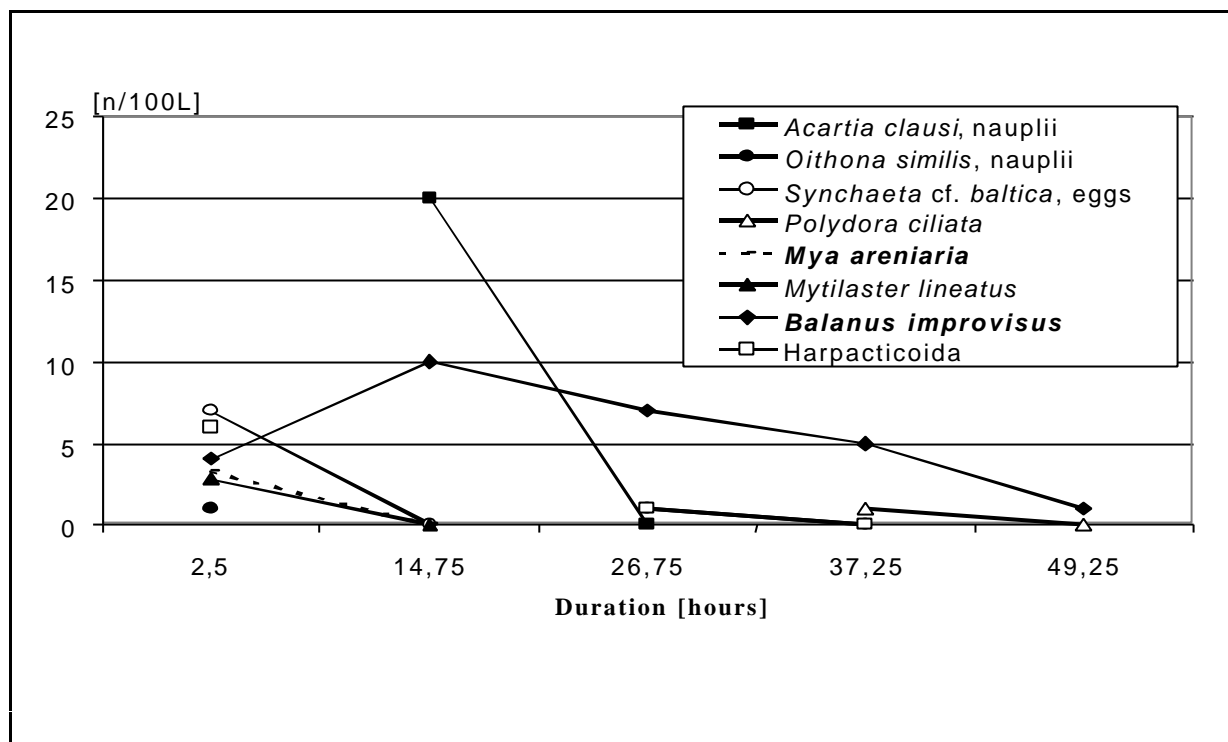
5 One forepeak tank, with a capacity of 70 tonnes and one sidetank with a capacity of 12 tonnes was chosen for the experiment. Both ballast tanks were filled shortly before leaving Odessa. The water in the forepeak tank was kept in the tank until the end of the voyage and was sampled twice a day. The smaller tank was chosen for water exchange experiments.

6 Before the ballast was taken on board in Odessa, the water in the port was sampled twice near the ship's bow and stern. Mean values of these samples are given below. The first sampling in both ballast tanks was undertaken shortly after its filling. The density of organisms in both ballast tanks was much lower than in the sampled port water, probably due to plankton patchiness in the port basin.

**Density of zooplankton in the port of Odessa and during the first ballast water sampling  
(introduced species in bold letters)**

Taxa	Odessa port [100 L]	Fore peak [100 L]	Engine room [100 L]
<i>Acartia clausi</i> , nauplii	1035,3		270
<i>Acartia clausi</i> , copepodit II	71,8		
<i>Oithona similis</i> , nauplii	82,0	1	60
<i>Synchaeta</i> cf. <i>Baltica</i>	4489,5		390
<i>Synchaeta</i> cf. <i>baltica</i> , eggs	1045,5	7	330
<i>Polydora ciliata</i>	461,3		
<i>Spio filiformis</i>	61,5		
<b><i>Mya arenaria</i></b>	738,0	3,3	120
<i>Mytilaster lineatus</i>	328,0	2,8	
<b><i>Balanus improvisus</i></b>	379,3	4	120
Harpacticoida		6	60
<i>Neanthes (Nereis) succinea</i>			30
<b>Total</b>	<b>8792,2</b>	<b>24,1</b>	<b>1380</b>

**Numbers of specimens in the forepeak tank according to taxa and the duration of the voyage  
(introduced species in bold letters)**



7 The above are just a few examples of the experiments. A video of the Workshop will be produced, and the full report is available from the Secretariat on request.

8 Press conferences were held in Odessa, Constanta and Varna and were well attended.

**Action requested of the Committee**

9 The Committee is invited to take note of this information.